



*NCI's Roadmap to  
Personalized Cancer Treatment*

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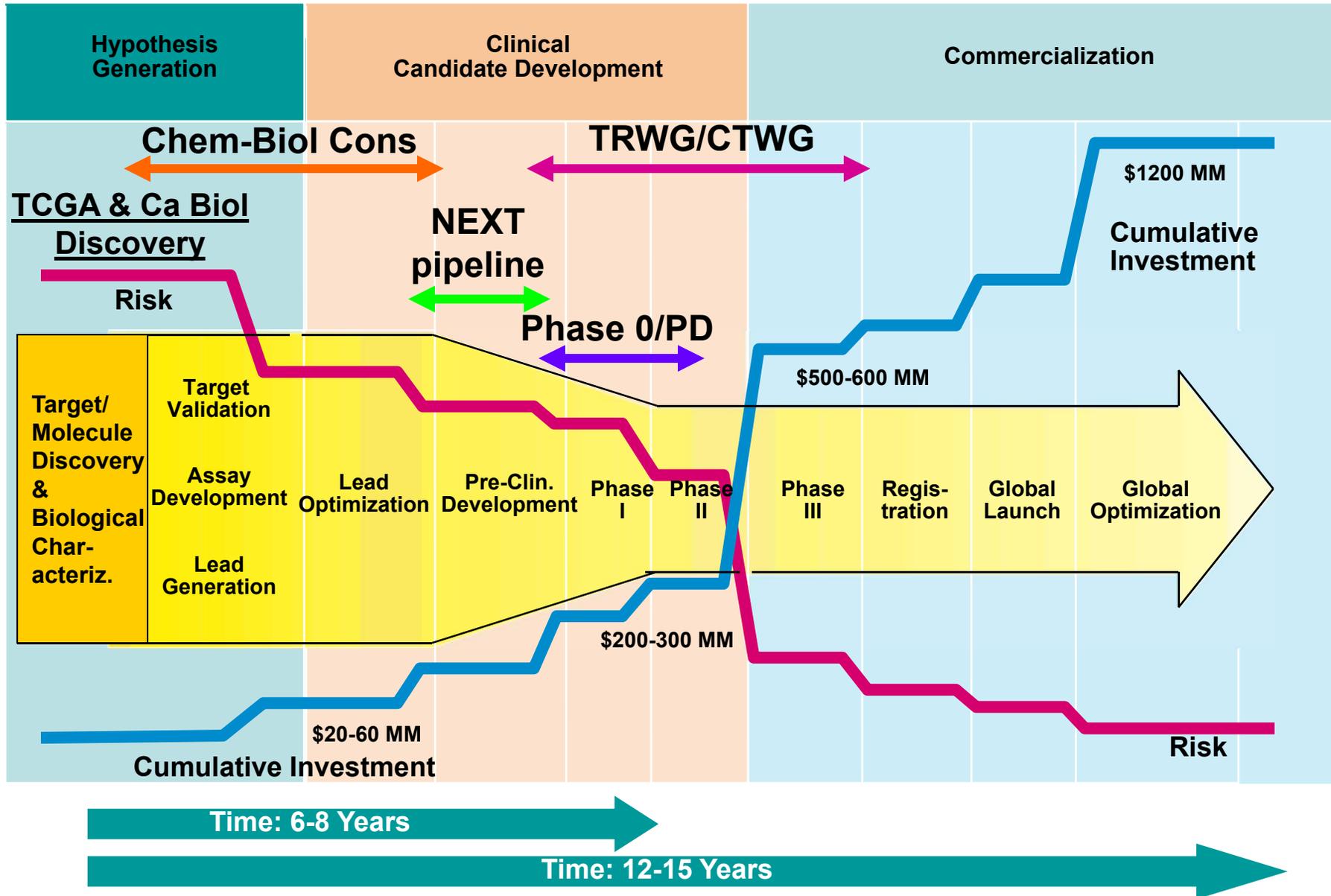


*NCI Board of Scientific Advisors*  
*Bethesda, MD*  
June 22, 2009

## Top Biotech Patent Applicants 2002-06 (Marks & Clerk Esqs.)

Rank	Assignee	Number of Patents
1	Japan Sci and Tech Agency	1022
2	Univ. of California	543
3	Genentech*	421
4	United States Gov. (NIH)	334
5	Univ. of Texas	277
6	Millenium Pharmaceuticals*	272
7	Mass. General Hospital	201
8	Applera*	195
9	Novozymes*	162
10	Zymogenetics*	161
11	Johns Hopkins	154
12	Stanford	148
13	Human Genome Science*	141
14	Columbia	137
15	Univ. of Pennsylvania	133

# Therapeutics Development Timeline



## Critical Requirements for the Development of Personalized Cancer Treatment: Phase I-III Transition

- Timely prioritization & dedicated resources for essential biomarker validation studies, utilizing standardized laboratory practices
- Accelerate prioritized translational research initiatives in the area of personalized therapy
- Support for the coordination of hypothesis-driven biomarker studies across the entire clinical/translational science continuum

*Focus: Improve the specificity of treatment while reducing the high rate of failure (and cost) during the Phase I to III transition*

## Contributions of CTWG/TRWG Implementation to Personalized Therapeutics

- Biomarker, Imaging, and QOL Studies Funding Program
- Development of Special Translational Research Acceleration Program (STRAPs)
- Grand Opportunity: Coordination of Clinical/Translational Research Across the NCI

# Biomarker, Imaging and QOL Studies Funding Program (BIQSFP)

- **Purpose**
  - Ensure that the most important correlative science and quality of life studies can be initiated in a timely manner in association with clinical trials
  - Intent is to fund studies conducted in association with Phase 2/3 trials when cost is too high to be covered by Cooperative Group or other mechanisms
- **Prioritization Criteria**
  - **Correlative science (essential marker and imaging)**  
Developed by the Task Force of the Program for the Assessment of Clinical Cancer Tests (PACCT) and approved by CTAC in July 2007
  - **Quality of Life and Symptom Management**  
Developed by the Symptom Management and Health-Related QOL (SxQOL) Steering Committee and approved by CTAC in November 2007

## Prioritization: Integral and Integrated Studies

**1<sup>st</sup> Integral** studies: a test that must be performed in order for the trial to proceed

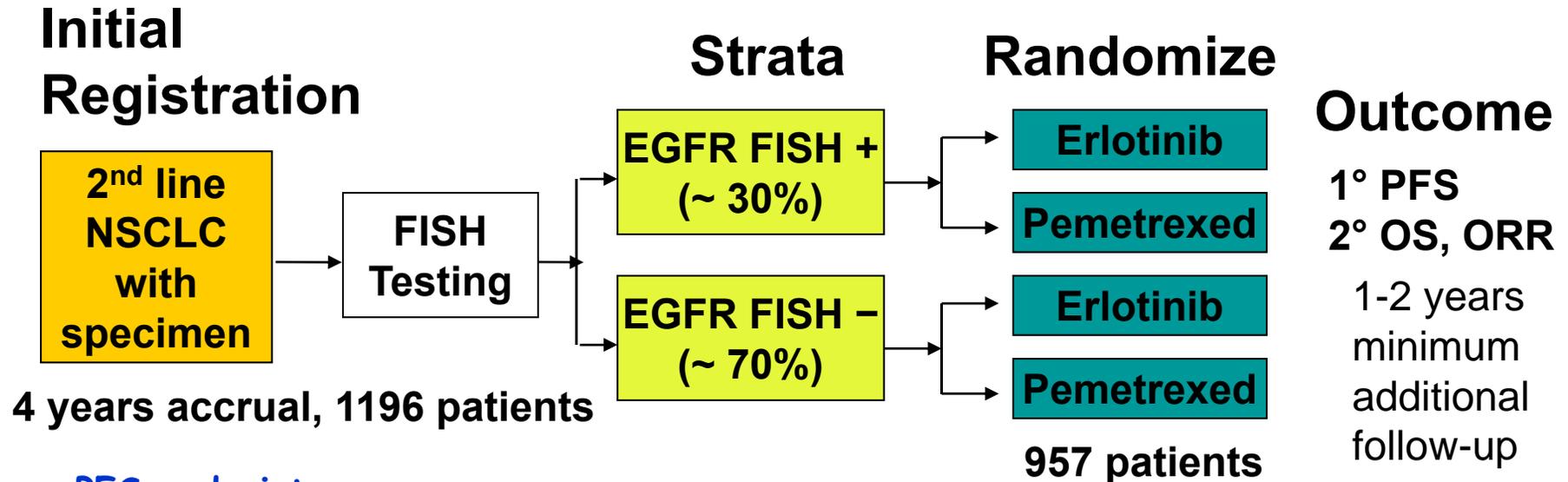
- Test to establish patient eligibility
- Test for patient stratification
- Test to assign patient to treatment arm, including early response endpoints for assignment of treatment during a trial

**2<sup>nd</sup> Integrated** studies: studies that are intended to identify or validate markers and imaging tests or QOL instruments that might be used in future trials

- Study plans clearly described in trial protocol
- Tests performed on all cases although results not used to guide decisions in current trial

# N0723: Predictive Marker Study Design

NCCTG (Study Chair: Alex Adjei) + CALGB, ECOG, SWOG, NCIC  
Others: C-Path & industry partners, Pharma, FDA

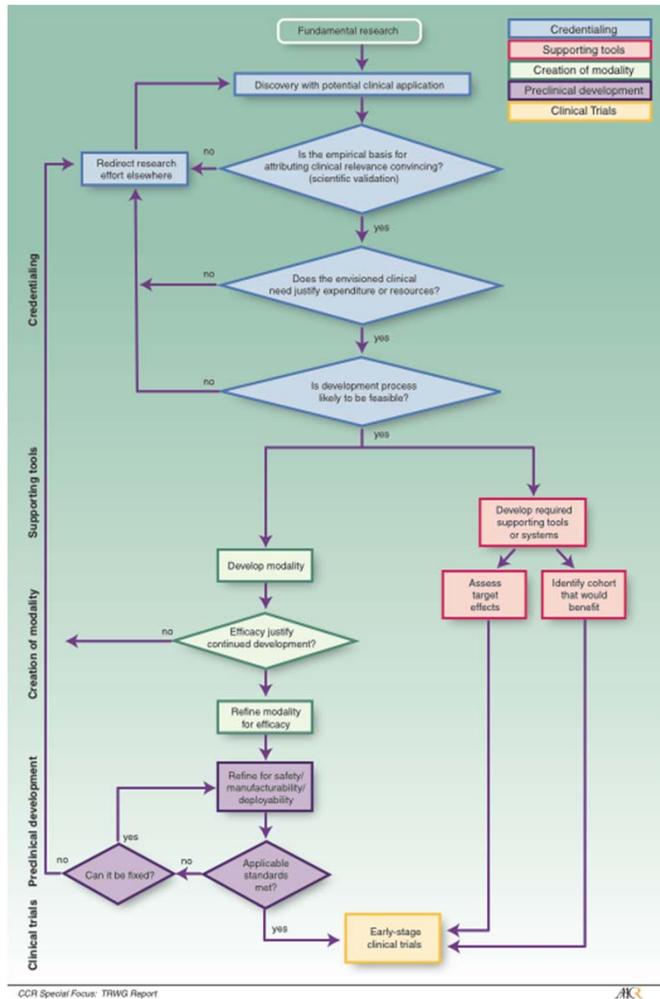


- **PFS endpoint**
  - Less influenced by treatment crossover
  - Will require synchronized treatment schedules, independent blinded imaging review
- **Power**
  - 90% to detect 50% PFS improvement favoring erlotinib in FISH+, 2.5---3.75m
  - 90% to detect 30% PFS improvement favoring pemetrexed in FISH-, 1.92--2.5m
  - > 90% to detect interaction
- IHC, mutational analysis, PGN evaluation in addition to FISH

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# The Challenge of Early Translation



## How can we best assure that:

- The most promising concepts enter the developmental pathways?
- Concepts that do enter advance to the clinic or to productive failure?
- Progress is as rapid, efficient and effective as possible?

# Translational Research Acceleration Initiative

*Select several projects/year that are “ripe” for translation*

- **Translational Research Acceleration Process Will:**
  - Gather information on translational opportunities
  - Prioritize translational research opportunities
  - Develop a funding & project management plan to accelerate prioritized opportunities
- **Translational Research Acceleration Process Will NOT:**
  - Impact Discovery research
  - Replace existing infrastructure or mechanisms for clinical or translational research

## Critical Elements for a Process to Prioritize Translational Research Opportunities

### Intra-pathway Prioritization

Pathway-specific criteria determined and weighted; prioritization performed by extramural content experts

### Inter-pathway Prioritization

Performed by the Clinical and Translational Research Advisory Committee (CTAC) of the NCI

### Executive Decisions

NCI leadership

# Proposed Funding Strategy

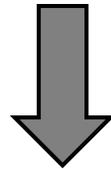
## **Special Translational Research Acceleration Project (STRAP)**

- Requirements:
  - Goal of completing early stage human studies
  - Project management plan
  - Specific development milestones and timelines
  - Development/commercialization strategy
- Funds for new and/or expanded projects
- Project management would link new or existing teams and projects and facilitate hand-offs between groups
- Opportunities to include industry/foundation funding or participation

## TRWG Implementation Next steps & Timeline

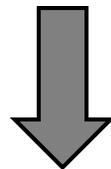
RFI for Translational Research Opportunities Pilot  
Immune Response Modifier Pathway

Late summer '09



Prioritize

Fall '09



Fund & Manage

2010

## Contributions of CTWG/TRWG Implementation to Personalized Therapeutics

- Biomarker, Imaging, and QOL Studies Funding Program
- Development of Special Translational Research Acceleration Program (STRAPs)
- Grand Opportunity: Coordination of Clinical/Translational Research Across the NCI (RFA-OD-09-004)

## Contributions of CTWG/TRWG Implementation to Personalized Therapeutics: Coordination GO Grants

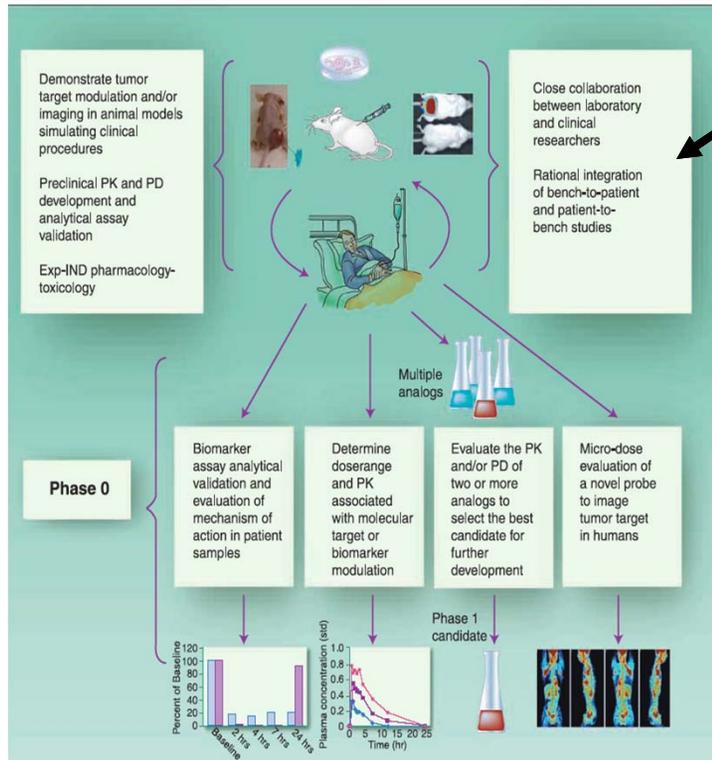
- Facilitate high impact translational research by rewarding collaborative team science
- Studies associated with multi-institutional clinical trials, conducted by consortia of SPORES, Cancer Centers, Cooperative Groups, PO1s, or other partners that, for example:
  - Validate therapeutic biomarkers
  - Correlate immunological signaling pathways with outcome from immunotherapy
  - Perform pharmacogenomic profiles to understand therapeutic efficacy or toxicity
- Due May 27, 2009; supported by ARRA initiative; funding start date: September 30, 2009

## Critical Requirements to “Personalize” Early Phase Trials

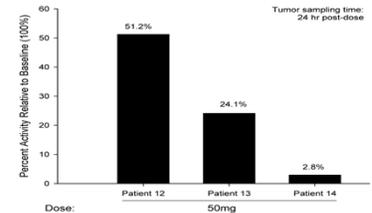
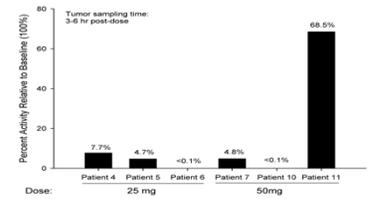
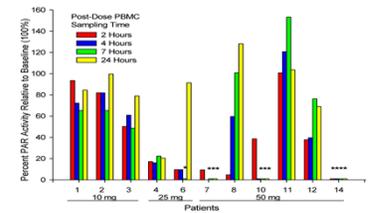
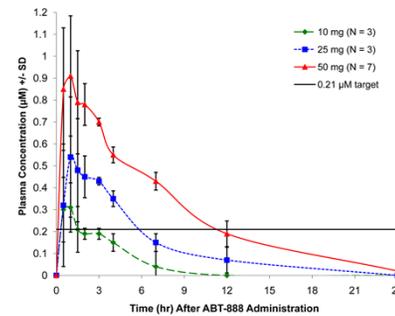
- Increase focus on proof-of-mechanism early phase clinical trials
  - Consider the first-in-human study as the culmination of pre-clinical development
  - Demand evidence that personalized therapies affect relevant pathways in tumor tissue (associated with efficacy)
  - Employ surrogate tissues only when there is a clear relationship between effect on the target in surrogate and in tumor
- “Clinical readiness” of pharmacodynamic assays
  - Pharmacodynamic assay development with validated analytical performance
  - Tissue acquisition and handling in the clinical setting
  - Storage transferability
  - Stability of analyte
  - Inter-, intratumoral variability

# Novel Approaches to Early Phase Personalized Trials

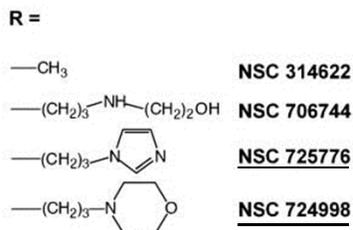
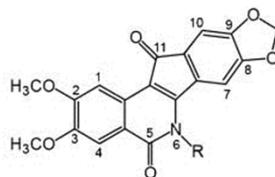
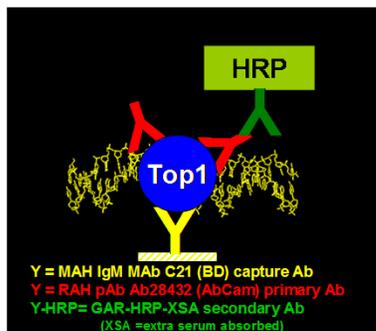
## “Clinical” Approach to Mouse Models



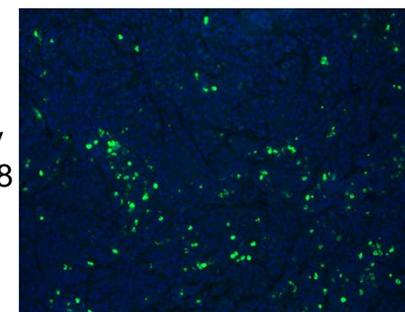
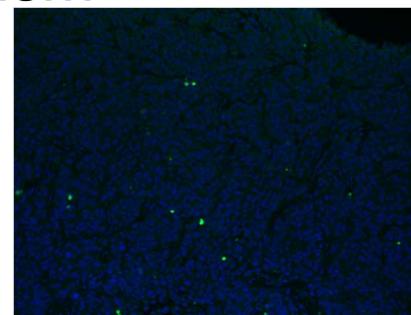
## Phase 0 Trial of ABT-888



# Indenoisoquinoline Proof of Mechanism Randomized Phase I Trial

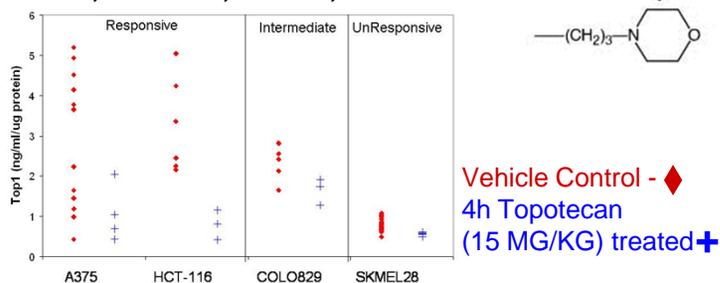


Vehicle

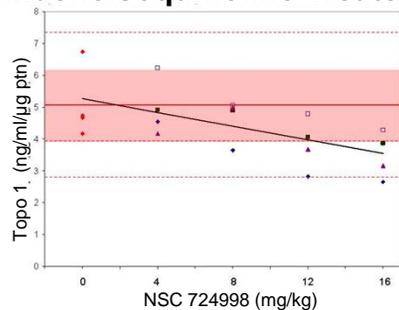


25 mg/kg iv  
NSC 724998

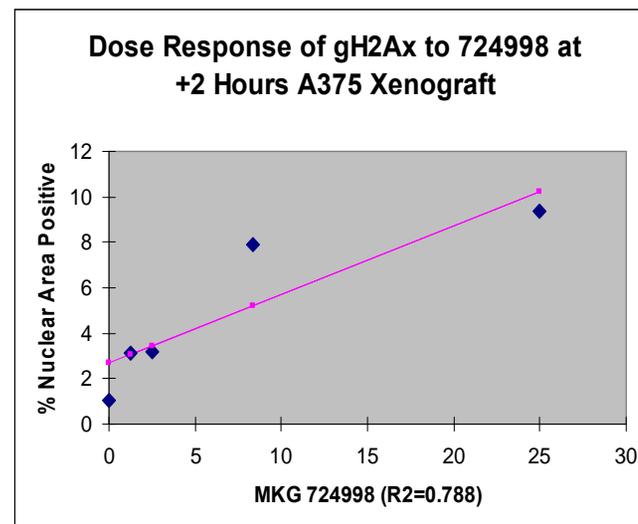
Topoisomerase I Levels in Xenograft Extracts  
AAXR2-18, YKR2-39, YPR2-2, AAYR2-17



Dose Response: Indenoisoquinoline Treated A375 Xenografts



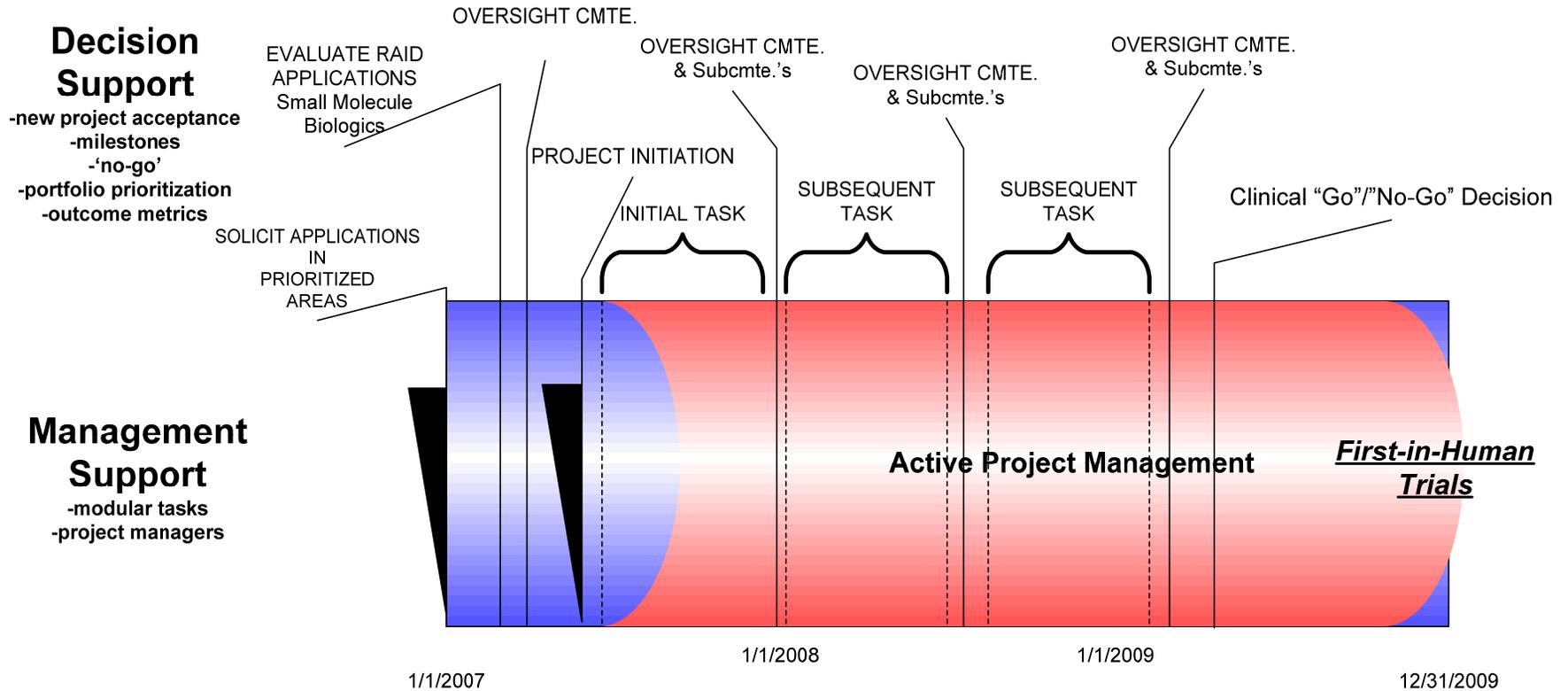
Vehicle Controls  
 Solid red line = Avg vehicle control    Dashed red line = Avg ± 1 and 2 SD  
 Black line = Dose Response



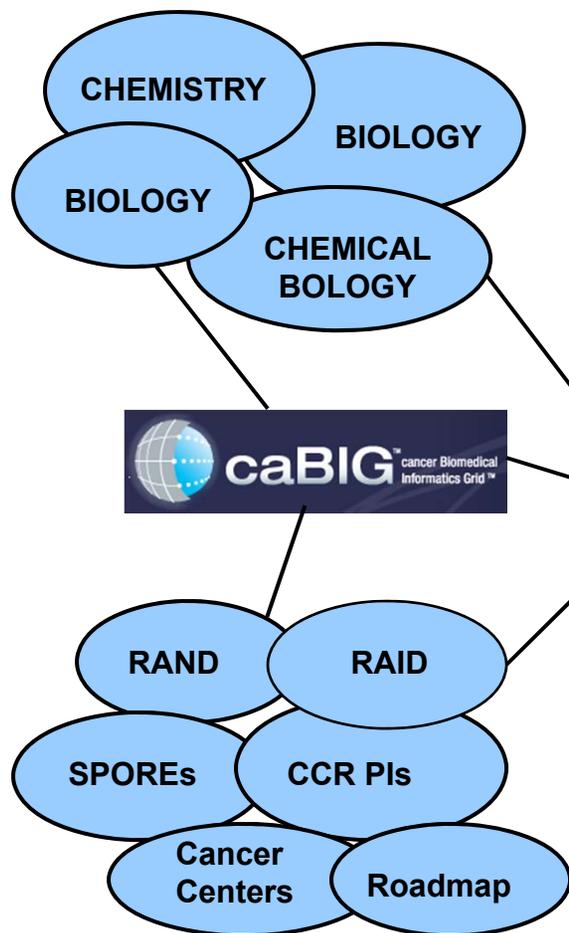
## NCI Experimental Therapeutics (NEXT) Pipeline Critical Issues in the Development of Personalized Therapies

- How best to support academic investigators who wish to move from target or molecule discovery to clinical trials (preclinical testing, toxicology, GMP production, and regulatory support)
- Addressing the “pharmacogenomics divide” (courtesy of Drs. Ames and Goetz, Mayo Clinic)
- Establishing a scientific rationale for combinations of targeted therapies

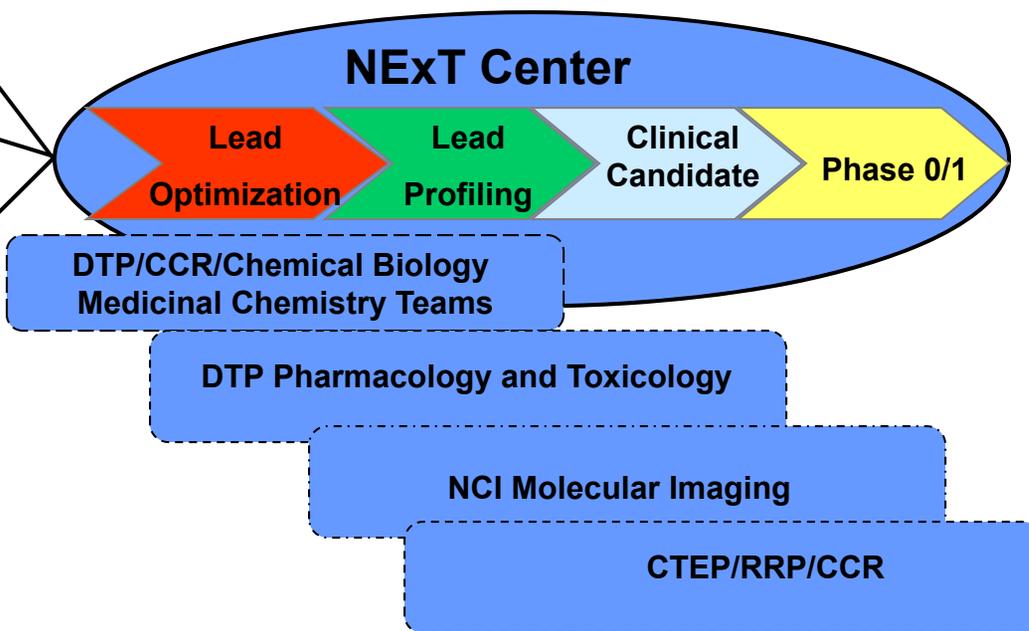
# Reorganization of RAID Drug Development



# Extramural



# NCI Experimental Therapeutics Center



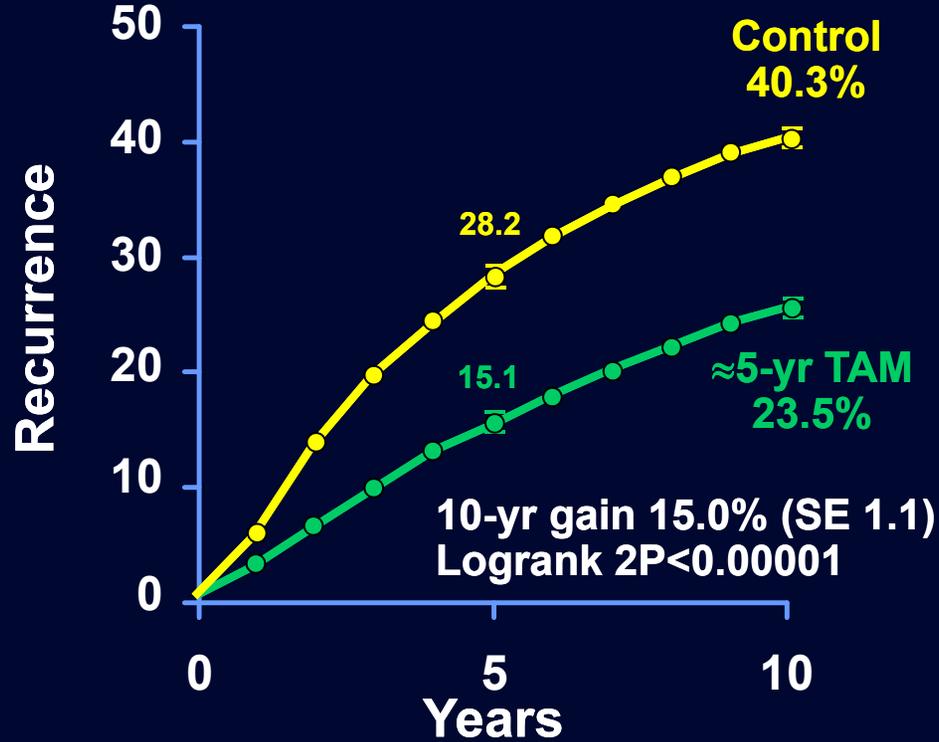
Discovery

Development

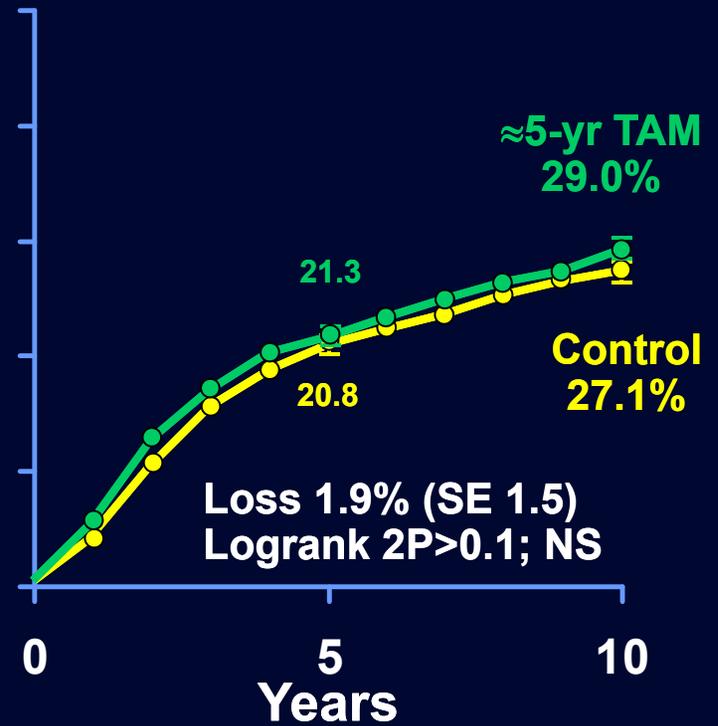
Clinical Investigation

# Oxford Overview: 5 Years of Tamoxifen vs Not ER Positive vs ER Negative

≈5 Years Tamoxifen vs Not  
Recurrence  
ER+/ER Unknown  
Entry age ≥50



≈5 Years Tamoxifen vs Not  
Recurrence  
ER – Poor PR – Poor



# Classical Understanding of Tamoxifen Pharmacology (1975-2005)

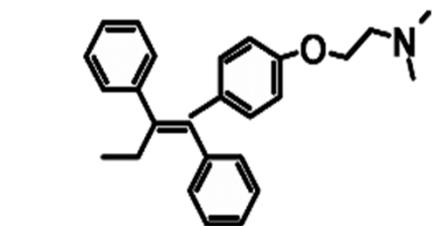
- Selective Estrogen Receptor Modulator
- Disrupts ER activity by stabilizing ER protein, blocking estrogen binding to the receptor
- Partial anti-estrogenic effects in the breast
- Estrogenic effects in uterus and bone
- Wide variability in the concentrations of tam and its metabolites without any association with drug response or toxicity

# Tamoxifen Pharmacology (2009)

- Not all tamoxifen metabolites are created equal
- Tamoxifen metabolites exhibit marked differences in
  - 1) ER binding
  - 2) Inhibition of cell proliferation

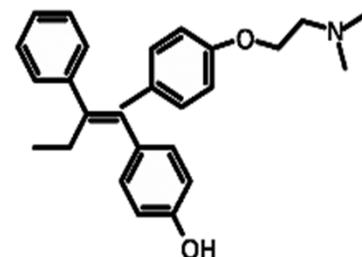
# Tamoxifen Metabolic Pathway (Humans)

200-300 nM



Tamoxifen (TAM)

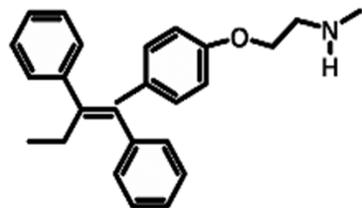
CYP2D6  
(CYP2B6, CYP2C9,  
CYP2C19, CYP3A)



4-hydroxyTAM

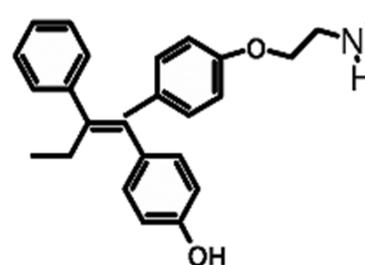
5-10 nM

CYP3A4/5  
(CYP2C9 + other  
CYP isoforms)



N-desmethylTAM

CYP2D6



Endoxifen

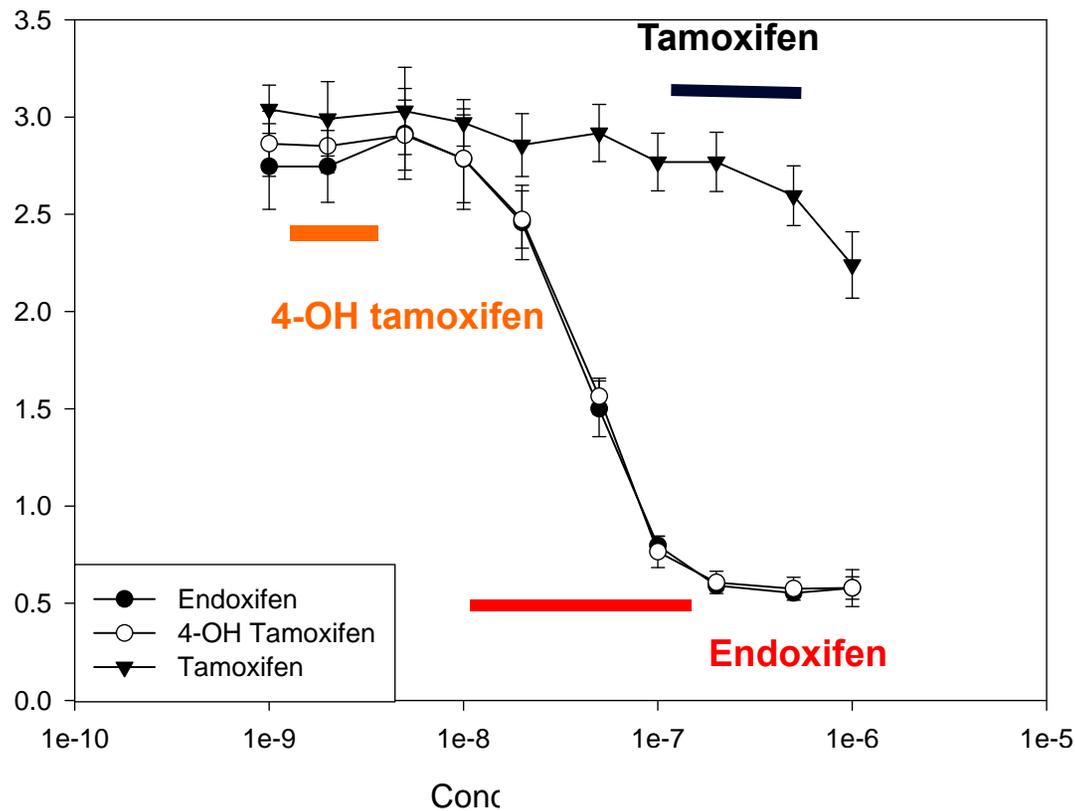
20-180 nM

400-600 nM

# Endoxifen and 4-OH-Tamoxifen are Equipotent as Inhibitors of Estrogen Stimulated Cell Proliferation

MCF-7 cells: In Vitro

Cell Growth



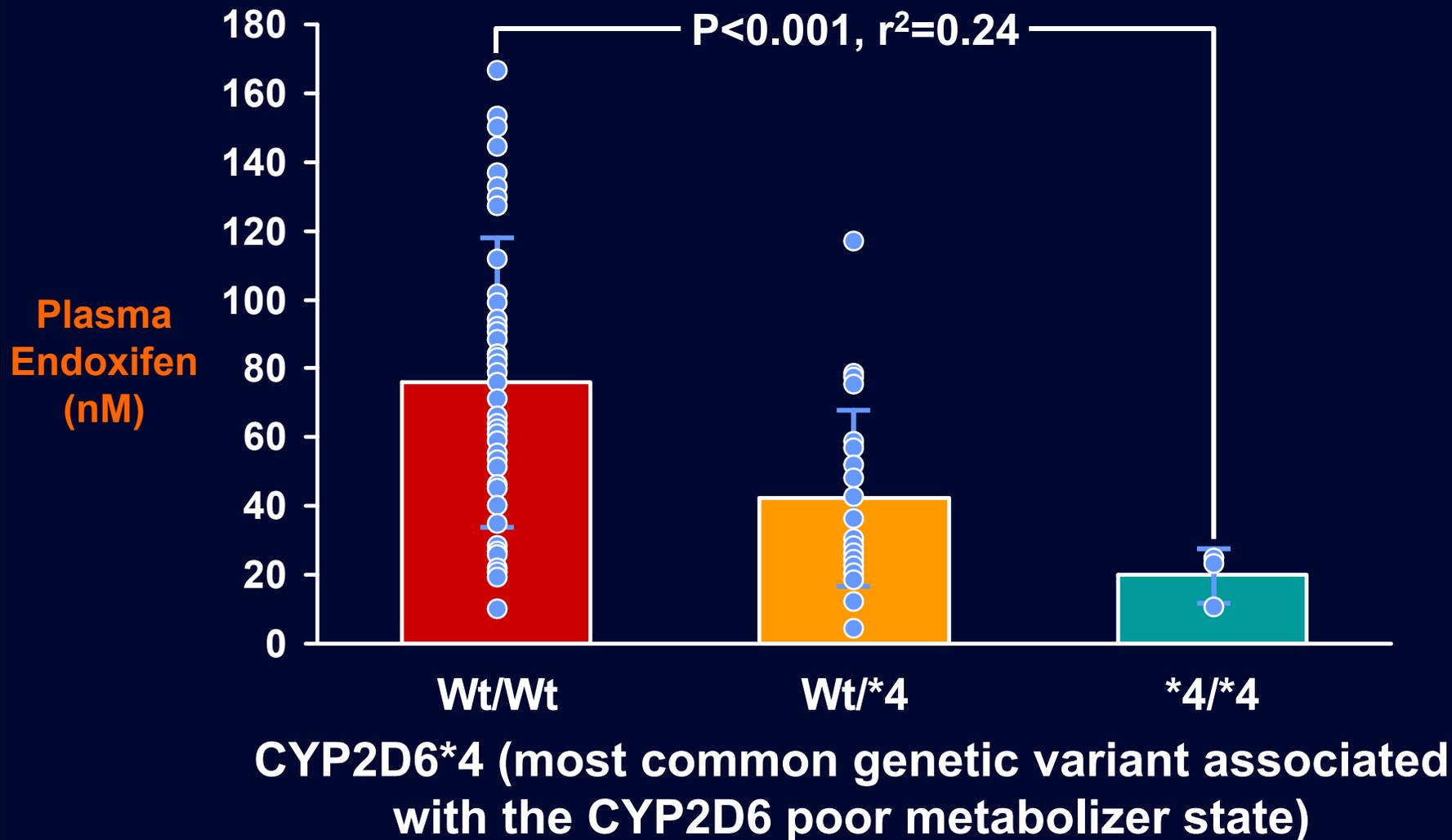
Concentrations in humans

- Tam (300-500 nM)
- 4HT (5-10 nM)
- Endoxifen (20-180 nM)

Concentration

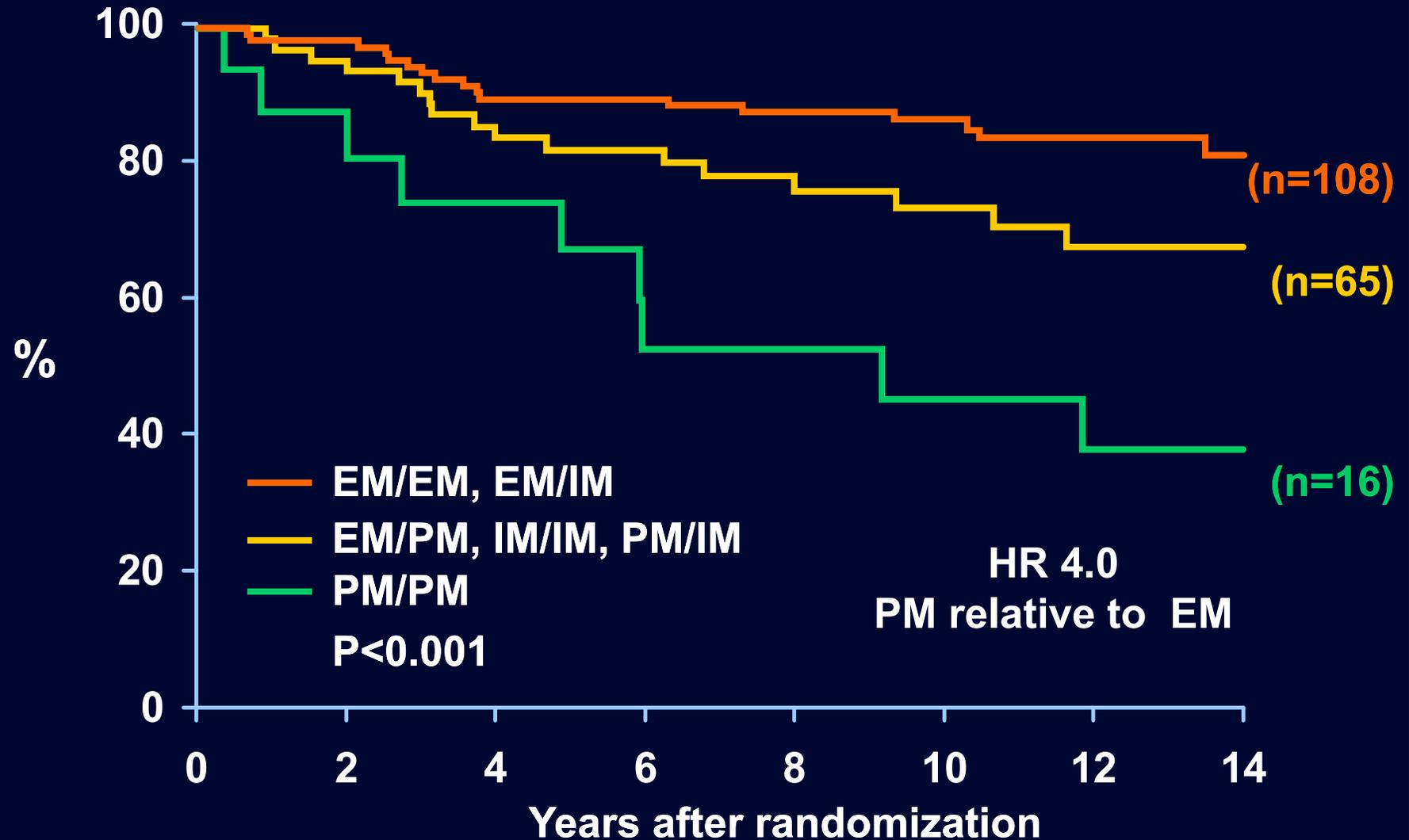
Johnson MD, et al: Breast Cancer Res Treat 85:151-9, 2004

# CYP2D6 Genotype and Endoxifen



Jin Y et al: J Natl Cancer Inst 97:30, 2005

# Time to Recurrence According to CYP2D6 Metabolizer Status\* in Women Receiving Adjuvant Tamoxifen

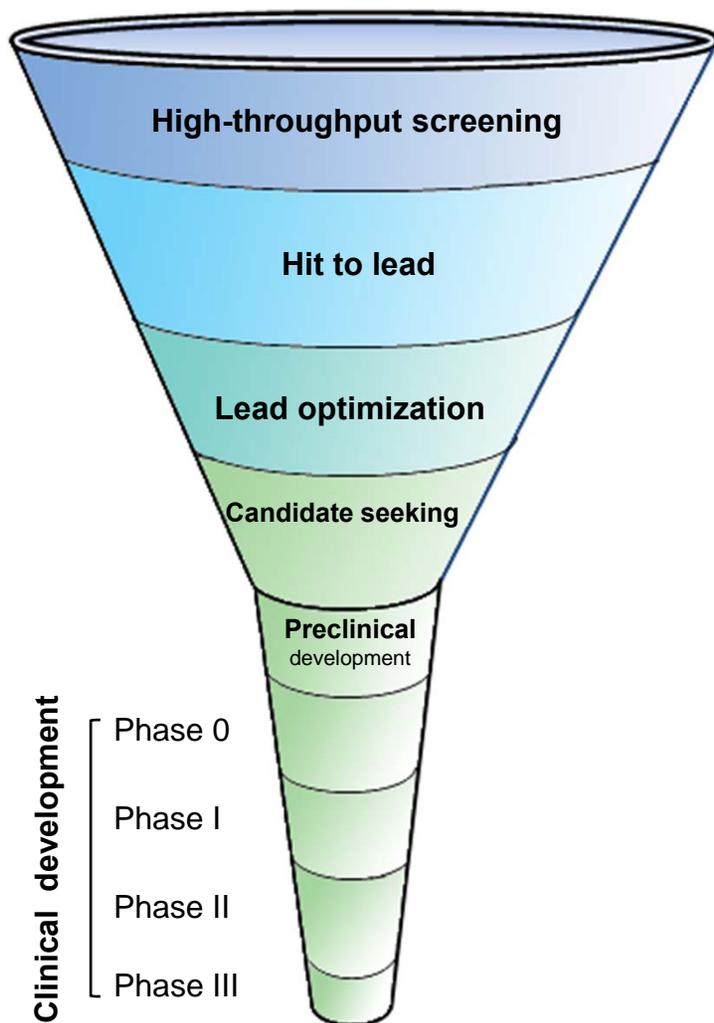


## Crossing the Pharmacogenetic Divide

- CYP2D6 critical for endoxifen exposure and, thus, tamoxifen drug effect; endoxifen potently inhibits ER $\alpha$  as well as other traditional mechanisms
  - Metabolic activation of tamoxifen limits drug activity
  - Administration of endoxifen would bypass pharmacogenetic limitations of tamoxifen
- However, no IP possible for 30-year old metabolite, even though it is a new “drug”
  - Preclinical pharmacology, toxicology
  - Drug formulation and GMP production
  - IND submission
  - Phase I clinical trial

*NCI has undertaken to produce clinical grade drug to begin the development process leading to a phase I study of endoxifen*

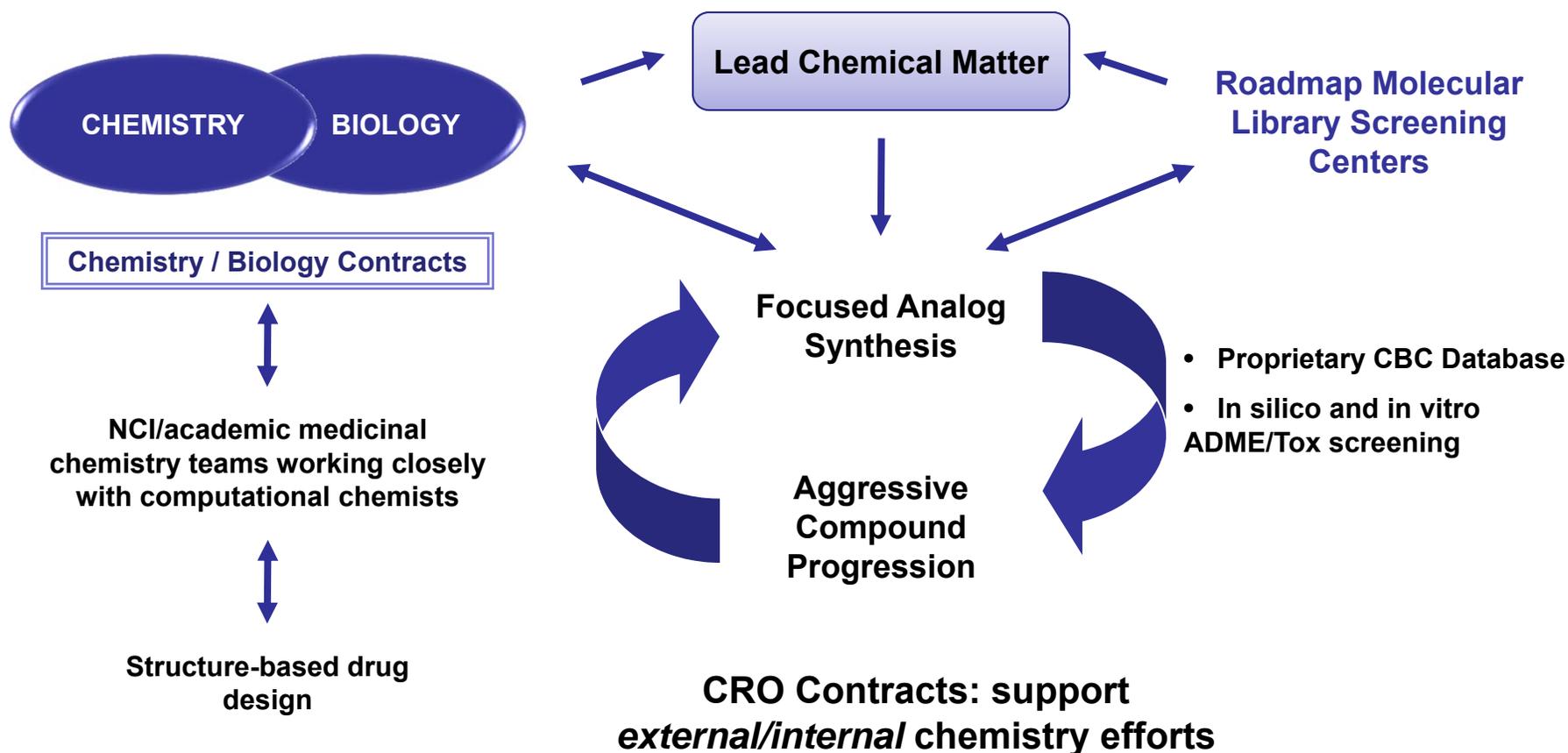
# Chemical Biology Consortium (CBC)



## Vision

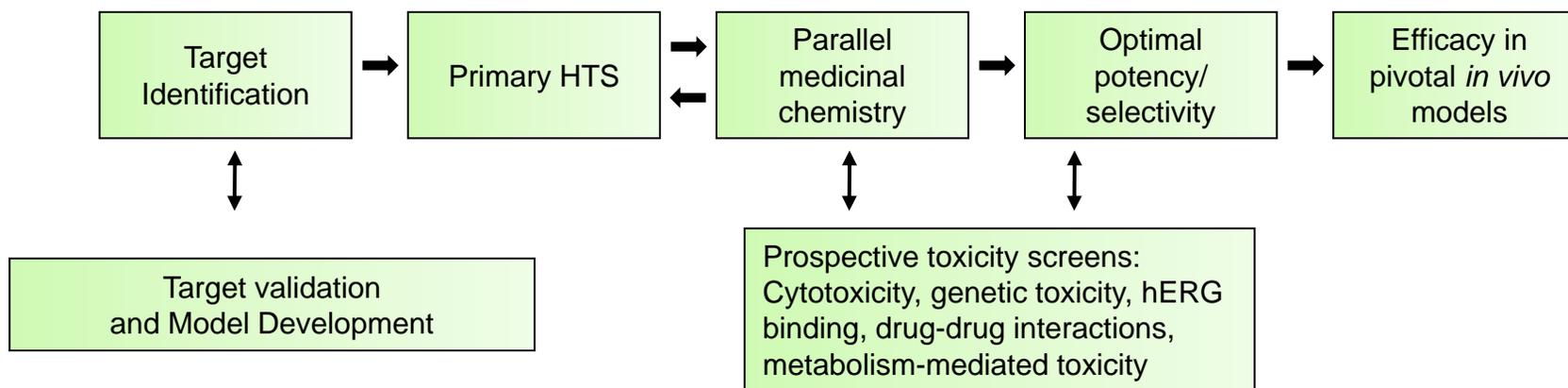
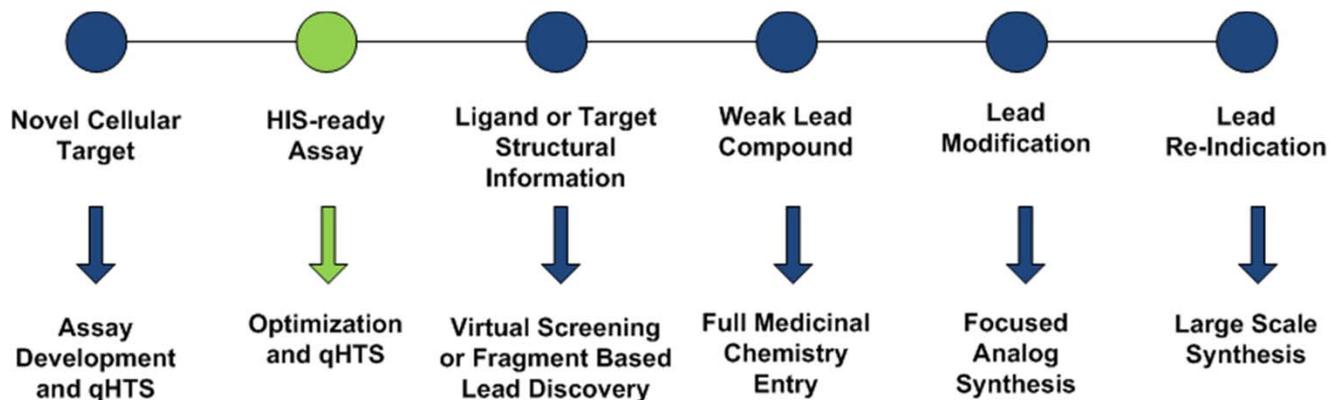
- Develop an integrated network of chemists, biologists, and molecular oncologists, with synthetic chemistry support.
  - Unify discovery with NCI preclinical and clinical development.
  - Link to other NCI initiatives with CCR as an integral partner.
  - Active mining of grant pool.
- Focus on unmet needs in therapeutics such as “undruggable” targets and under-represented “orphan” malignancies.
- Enable a clear, robust pipeline from target discovery through clinical trials for academic, small biotech, and pharma investigators.

# CBC: Enabling Hit-to-Lead and Lead Discovery



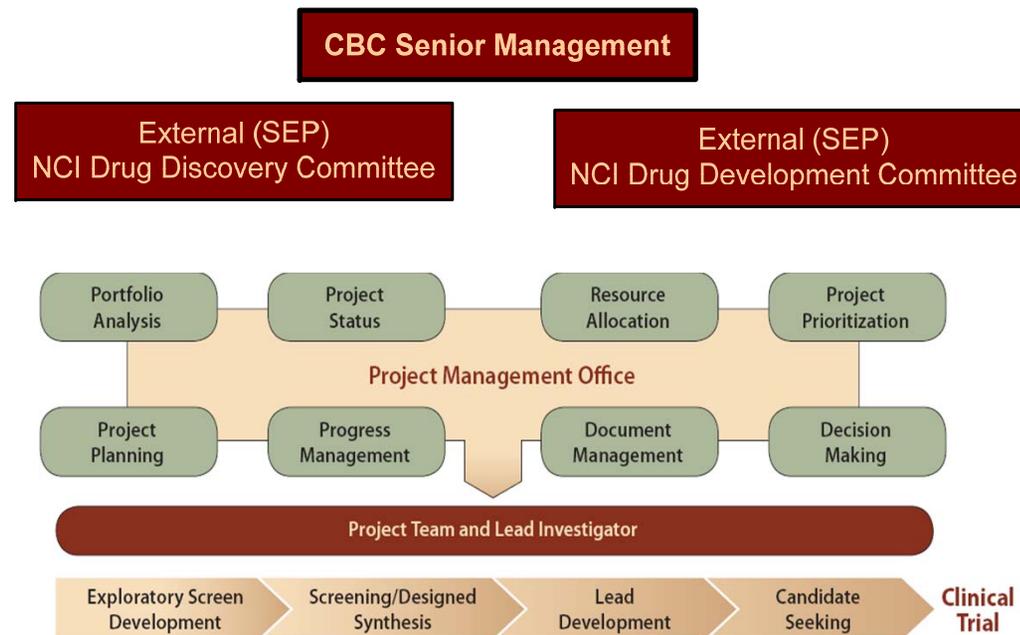
**Program Focus: Cross-site medicinal chemists (*academia, NIH, contractors*) working on high-risk, high-impact targets in a team setting**

# Entry Points into NCI Drug Discovery and Development Platform



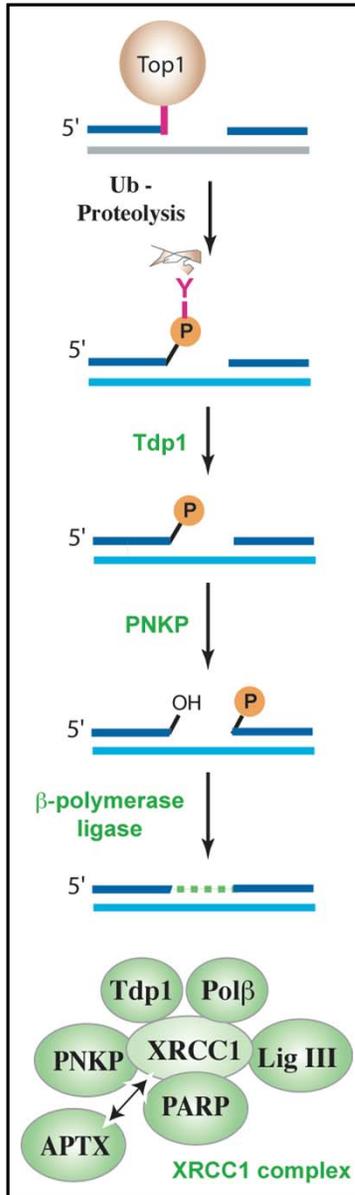
# 2009 and Beyond: Working towards Success

- **New Drug Discovery and Development Platform**
  - New Stage Gate process: agreed milestones
  - Projects are driven by a Project Team led by a Project Leader and Project Manager
  - Specific criteria (i.e., milestones) must be met to progress through each stage gate
- **New Governance**
  - External Special Evaluation Panels and Internal Review Committees will work together to approve and prioritize new projects and review stage-gate progression



- A standard, defined drug development process will provide metrics for informed portfolio analysis
- **Launch of Chemical Biology Consortium to “jump start” NCI pipeline**
- **New Infrastructure**
  - Adding Contract Research organizations (CROs) and increasing in house capacity to invigorate early phase drug discovery at the NCI

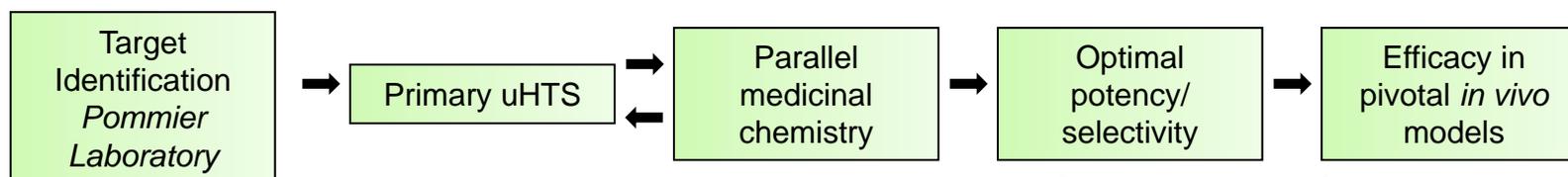
# Tdp1 is a Rational Anticancer Target



- Tdp1 repairs DNA lesions created by Top1 trapping
- No Tdp1 specific inhibitors
- Tdp1-deficient cells are hypersensitive to Top1 inhibitors
- In Tdp1-knockout yeast, this hypersensitivity appears only when cells are also defective for checkpoints and repair pathways

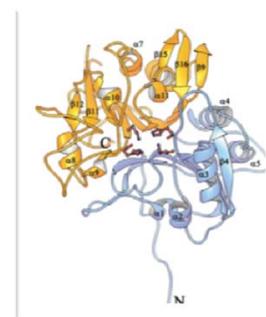
# CBC Early Discovery Activities-Tdp1 Pilot with Pommier Laboratory

Joint collaboration between CCR/DCTD/NCGC

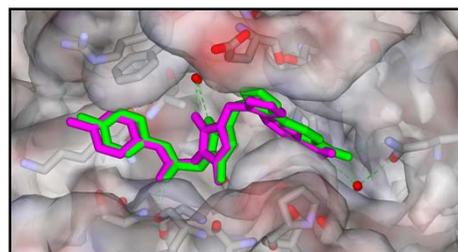
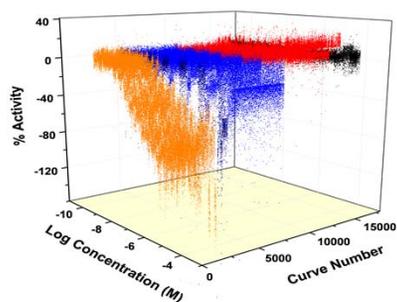


NIH Chemical Genomics Center

Secondary biochemical and cell-based screens  
*-Pommier Laboratory*



Co-crystallization with HTS "Hits"



Computational Docking

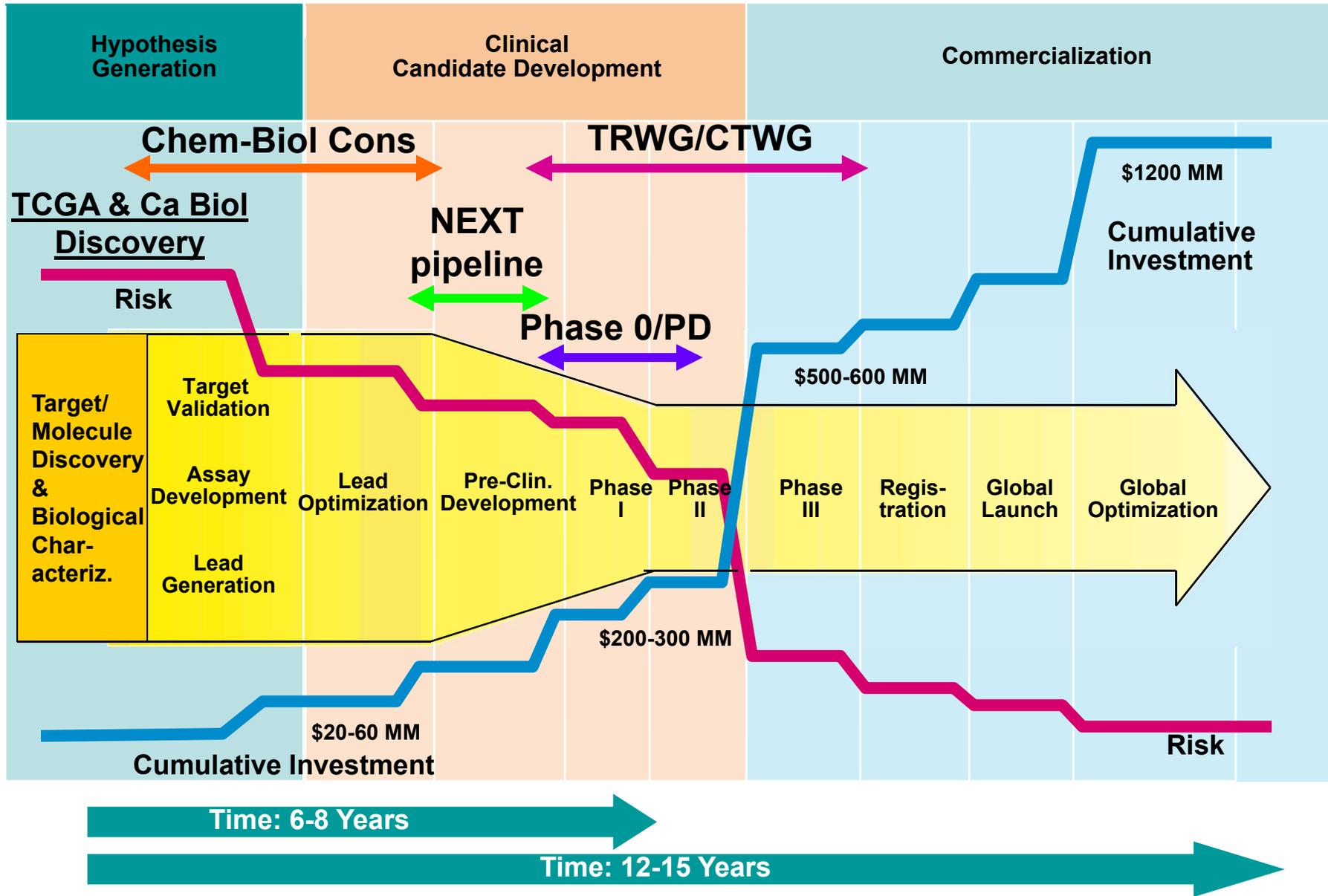
Biacore: compound-enzyme affinity constants



## Initial CBC Participants

- Burnham
- Southern Research
- SRI International
- Vanderbilt
- Emory
- UCSF
- Univ. No. Carolina
- Pittsburgh
- Univ. of Minnesota
- Georgetown
- NCI Intramural Chemical Biology
- Affiliate Investigators

# Therapeutics Development Timeline



# The Cancer Genome Atlas

- Pilot includes glioblastoma, ovarian and lung cancers
- **Glioblastoma** (80 percent tumor purity, with matched normal controls)
  - Genomic analysis of 214 patient cases; 168 patient cases sequenced
  - Identified NF1, Erbb2, and PIK3R1 as highly associated with GBM (EGFR, p53)
  - **At least 4 subtypes emerging**
- New data integration and analysis underway



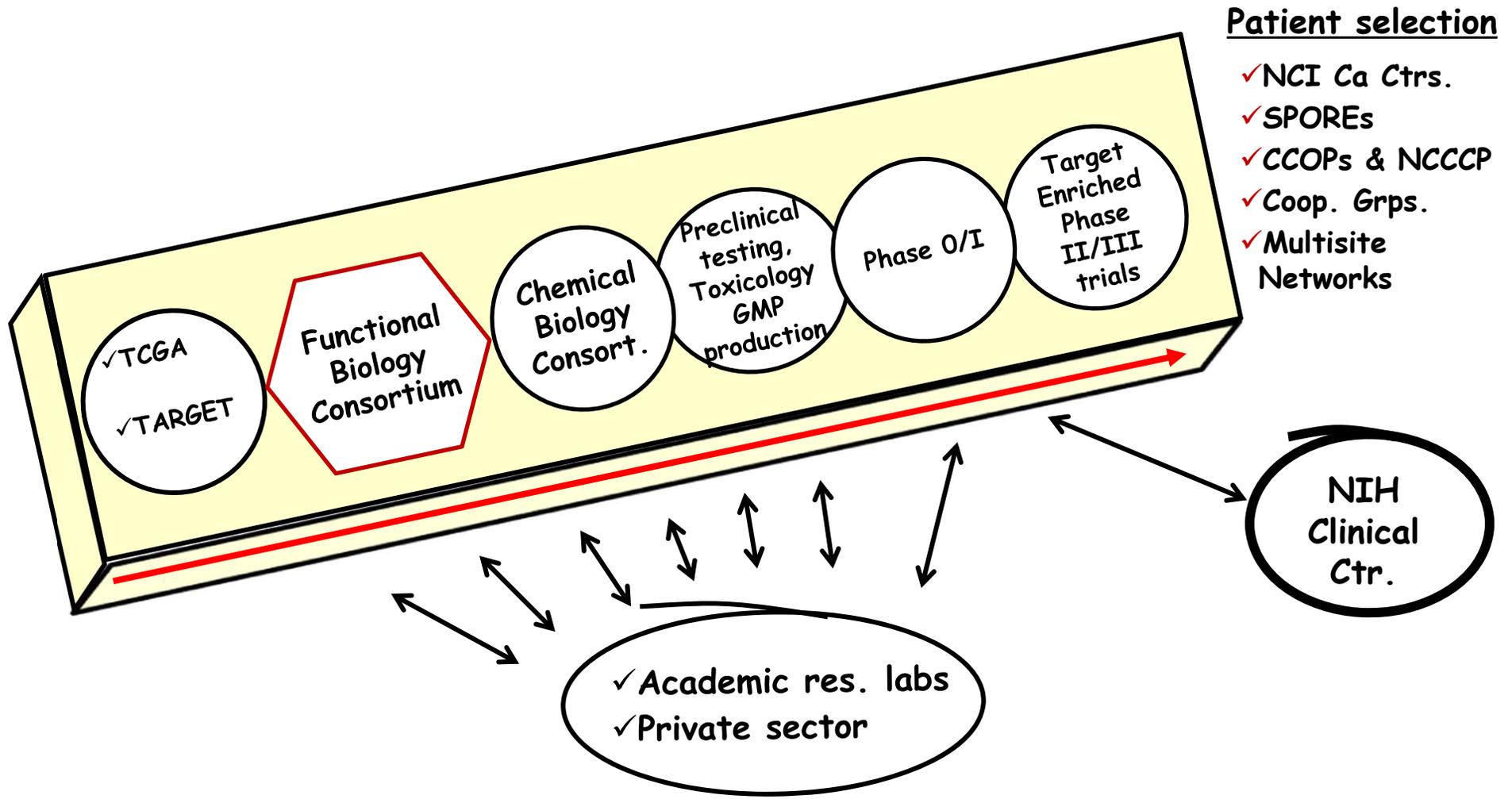
# Personalized Cancer Medicine

✓ TCGA  
✓ Biologic  
Discovery

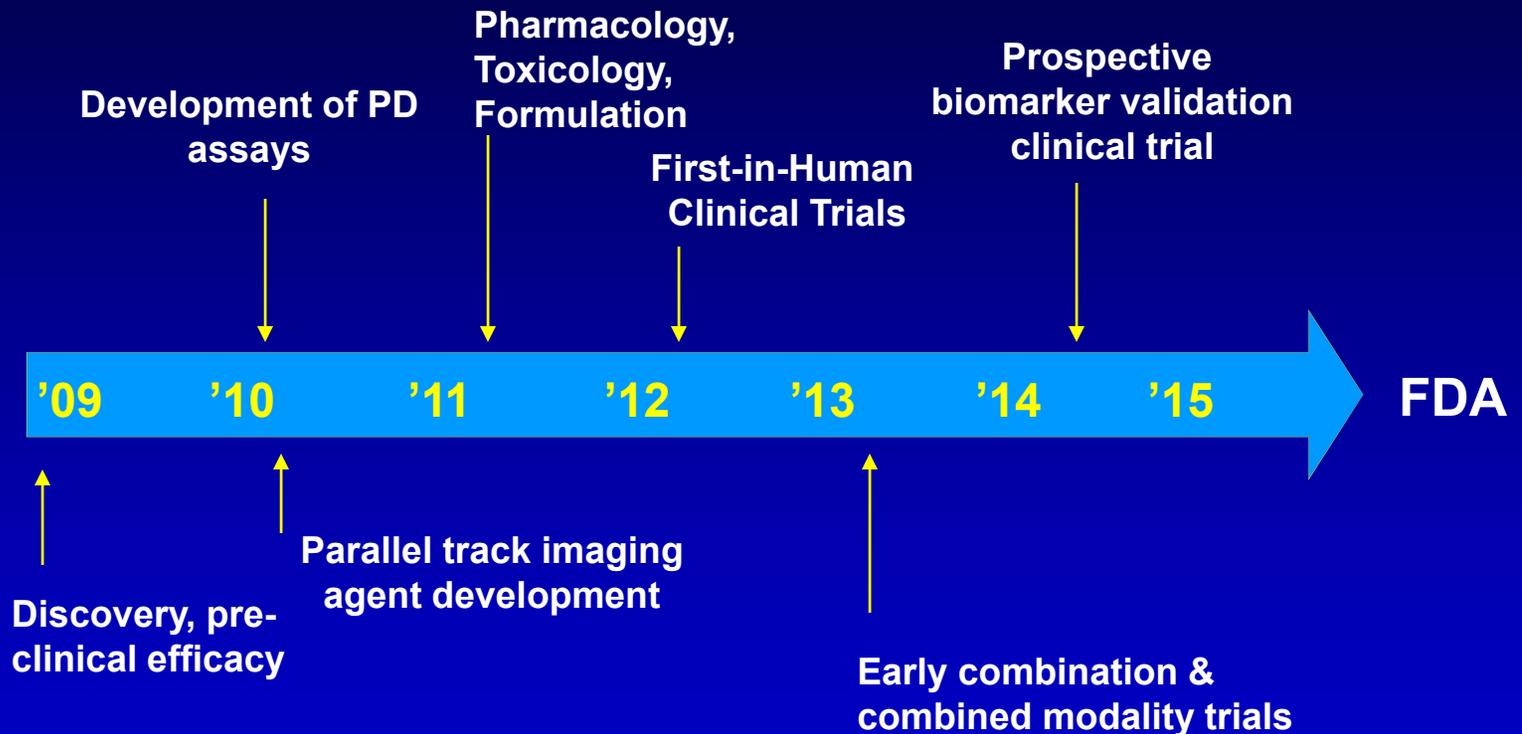
**Translational Science**  
From Genomics to Therapy

- Small molecules
- Biologics
- Biomarkers

# NCI's Roadmap to Personalized Cancer Treatment



# NCI's Timeline to Personalized Medicine in Cancer Treatment



# NCI's Roadmap to Personalized Medicine in Cancer Treatment

❖ DCTD

Jerry Collins  
Joe Tomaszewski  
Melinda Hollingshead  
Ralph Parchment  
Jim Tatum  
Jeff Abrams  
Jamie Zweibel  
Toby Hecht  
Norm Coleman  
Barbara Mroczkowski  
Meg Mooney

❖ CCR

Lee Helman  
Bob Wiltrout  
Yves Pommier  
Giuseppe Giaccone  
Michelle Bennett  
Pat Steeg

❖ NCIOD

Sheila Prindiville  
Deborah Jaffe  
Ray Petryshyn  
Anna Barker  
Daniela Gerhard

❖ DCB, DCP, & DCCPS

❖ NCI-Frederick  
Craig Reynolds

❖ CTAC

## Personalized Cancer Treatment: Questions for the BSA

- How should NCI support a coordinated approach to characterizing the functional biology of the output of its TCGA program in the context of personalized therapeutics?
  - How can we add value beyond that of the genomic discovery effort itself and ongoing investigator-initiated studies that will follow from TCGA?
  - What approaches would be most appropriate?
- What are the major **continuing or new** roadblocks to the development of personalized cancer medicines in the academic and biotech arena in 2009?
- What new/enhanced resources should the NCI consider developing to accelerate progress in the field of “personalized” cancer therapeutics?